

IV. LIFELINE SERVICE

E. Eligibility Requirements for Lifeline Service On Tribal Lands

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1. The applicant or customer seeking to obtain Lifeline Service on Tribal Lands (see definition in 2.a. below) must demonstrate their current participation in at least one of the following assistance programs. The Applicant or customer shall complete and sign, under penalty of perjury, an authorization and self certification form provided by the Company. The Applicant or customer must check all of the following that apply.

- a. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP" f/k/a Food Stamps)
- b. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- c. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- d. Medical Assistance (Medicaid/Soonercare)
- e. Vocational Rehabilitation (including aid to the hearing impaired)
- f. Oklahoma Sales Tax Relief
- g. Federal Public Housing Assistance
- h. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- i. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations ("FDPIR")
- j. 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- k. Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance; (1)
- l. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) tribally-administered block grant programs; (2)
- m. Head Start Programs (only applicant or customer who satisfy the income qualifying eligibility provision); or
- n. National School Lunch Program (only applicant or customer who satisfy the income standard of the program for free meals).

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2. The applicant or customer must also certify:

- a. Residence on Tribal Lands as described in Title 25, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 20.1, paragraph (v).
- b. Agreement to notify Company if applicant or customer no longer participates in the program or programs described in paragraph 1. above, for which the Applicant or Customer certified their participation in.
- c. The applicant must not be a dependent for Federal Income Tax purposes, unless the applicant is over the age of 60.

3. Upon receipt of the completed self certification, Company will begin providing the credit set forth in F. below. Lifeline credits will not be implemented or continued unless telephone service arrangements are and remain, within the Lifeline Service criteria specified above.

(1) Applicant must "have sufficient resources to meet the basic and special needs defined by the Bureau Standard of assistance," 25 C.F.R. § 20.21.

(2) 42 U.S.C. § 612 and 45 C.F.R. § 286.

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- 4. The Lifeline credits will be discontinued upon receipt by the Company of notice by the Customer that they no longer meet the eligibility requirements for the Lifeline credits.
- 5. The Lifeline credits will be automatically discontinued unless the customer annually certifies they continue to meet the eligibility requirements for Lifeline credits. All such annual re-self certifications must be submitted to the Company within the time frames determined by the Company.
- 6.. Lifeline customers will be converted to standard residential service rates once they no longer qualify for Lifeline Service. No service charge will apply for this change in service.

F. Lifeline Credits on Tribal Lands DT

Lifeline Service on Tribal Lands has been established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), therefore eligible Lifeline customers will receive the appropriate credits, depending on the programs the customer participates in, as specified by the FCC in its Twelfth Report and Order entered into in CC Docket No. 96-45 and as set forth below:

1. If a customer indicates eligibility to receive Lifeline credits as, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP" f/k/a Food Stamps), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medical Assistance, Vocational Rehabilitation (including aid to the hearing impaired), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations ("FDPIR") or Oklahoma Sales Tax Relief Act (68 O.S. §5011, et seq.), then the Customer should receive credits as follows:

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|   | <u>Monthly Credit<sup>(1)</sup></u> |    |
|---|-------------------------------------|----|
| Federal Lifeline Credit:                | \$9.25                              | CR |
| Oklahoma Universal Service Fund Credit: | \$1.17                              | CR |

Additional Federal Credit to Residential Access Line  
necessary to reduce customer's bill to \$1.00 (See footnote (2) below)

(1) Credit amount will not exceed the total of the subscriber line charge and the residential local exchange rate, less \$1.00. In no instance will a subscriber's monthly local exchange rate be less than \$1.00 after the application of the Lifeline Credits.

(2) Eligible customers will also receive an additional reduction off the applicable monthly tariff rate for their local exchange service, not to exceed \$25.00 as specified by the FCC in its Twelfth Report and Order entered in CC Docket No. 96-45.

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F. Lifeline Credits on Tribal Lands (Continued) DT

2. If a customer indicates his eligibility to receive Lifeline credits as only one or more of the following: Federal Public Housing Assistance, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) tribally administered block grant programs, Head Start Programs (only those meeting its income qualifying eligibility provision), 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or National School Lunch Program (only Applicant or customer who satisfy the income standard of the program for free meals), then the Customer should receive credits as follows: AT

|  | <u>Monthly Credit</u> <sup>(3)</sup> |    |
|--|--------------------------------------|----|
| Federal Lifeline Credit:   | \$9.25                               | CR |
| Additional Federal Credit to Residential Access Line<br>necessary to reduce customer's bill to \$1.00 (See footnote (4) below) |                                      |    |

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(3) Credit amount will not exceed the total of the subscriber line charge and the residential local exchange rate less \$1.00. In no instance will a subscriber's monthly local exchange rate be less than \$1.00 after the application of the Lifeline Credits.

(4) Eligible customers will also receive an additional reduction off the applicable monthly tariff rate for their local exchange service, not to exceed \$25.00 as specified by the FCC in its Twelfth Report and Order entered in CC Docket No. 96-45.

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